

## What Lies Ahead

By David B. Brown © 2020

The future for Hill Cumorah Expedition Team is exciting. When we began our efforts as an unofficial research group in 2001, it was only a small effort to initiate and further understand this region that we believe is the Land of Cumorah. Now, in our twentieth year, it has become something that we never imagined it could be.

In 2001 there were only a handful of men who traveled to the northern part of Oaxaca to see if they could locate the area where Neil had his previous experiences concerning the hill.

Once that location was found, it then became an effort to find a cave that must have been where the Mormon records were stored. In 2004 the group found, by inspiration, the Proclamation Tablet. This is a stone that has both Married Ogam and Chinese ideogram markings. The message: *inside the covered place* and *Proclaim!* Thus, it is called the Proclamation Tablet. However, all of this was being done in a manner where we tried to sneak in and out of town without being detected. We were soon to discover that



The Proclamation Tablet found at Cerro Rabon in 2004.

God had a different plan for how we were to operate. He was not going to allow us to continue to sneak around.

In 2005, during a communion service on the hill, Neil Steede and Forrest Ligget were taken prisoner by the local police, and they were soon joined by Mike Brown and Jerry

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## Prophecy Fulfilled

By Tim Brown © 2020

I want to relate an experience I shared with several of my brethren in the summer of 2001. Our Sunday school class had been studying the Book of Mormon for several years. It was decided we should take a trip to Mexico to see where we believe the events mentioned took place. Neil Steede was a friend of the group since his family attended Buckner Congregation in the 1970s as Harry

Steede, his father, was pastor. Neil agreed to be our mostly blind, mostly crippled, tour guide. My brother, Mike, bought a used Greyhound-type bus. He had the sides of the bus painted with different archeological scenes. The interior was rearranged with several seats facing each other and tables in-between. There was a space made for sleeping quarters for several of the drivers and an electric range

and microwave were installed. We added a generator with an inverter for charging various battery operated devices. We also installed a stereo system with the latest technology – a CD player. Needless to say, it was a pretty

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## Prophecy Fulfilled *continued*

cool setup.

We left Buckner Church headed for Mexico in late June of 2001. We had a wonderful start to our trip. Early on several of us decided to take a day and climb “the hill,” a mountain called Cerro Rabon, but we called it Hill Cumorah because of various testimonies too numerous to mention here. Climbing the hill was an experience I will never forget, not because of any spiritual awareness, but because of the physical assault on my body. It was brutal.

Several days after the climb as we were traveling on the bus and reflecting on the importance of the hill, we pledged we would return next spring to continue our investigation. During that discussion my mother came forward and addressed those of us who were discussing the future venture. Here is the testimony she wrote four years later about that event:

*“It was an afternoon in early July during our memorable 2001*

*bus trip to Mexico. I was turning over in my mind the exceptional experiences that had been ours days before; the powerful testimonies opened to all of us of God’s presence and protection and intercession on our behalf. Thoughts, words, then sentences – I thought more and more strongly I needed to share. I walked up to the front of the bus and sat down. Neil was standing on the step which he often did, Mike was driving, CD was playing and I think Tim was between the two of them. Joseph Mangum was sitting on the left side about half way back.*

*I began to speak and after the first few moments, Mike turned the volume down on the CD. Usually when in a spiritual experience, I become emotional with tears, etc., but in this particular instance my voice was strong, clear, firm! A week after the experience, I could have repeated it almost word for word. Sadly I didn’t write it down. Four years have passed but the*

*heart of the message was this: ‘You have no idea of the significance of your being together at this time, in this place. This quest will be the means of such a deep spiritual experience that it will give life to the very core of your being. Your mission will be blessed of the Lord.’ So may it ever be. Amen.”* Johnnie Brown

Has this been fulfilled? More than you can ever know. It is now 19 years later. That prophecy shared with us so many years ago has been fulfilled in unbelievable ways. I cannot imagine what my life would be like without the rich knowledge and light we have been given. As we have moved out in faith, light and understanding have just exploded. It’s amazing how God has blessed this small group with an understanding of the truth of the Book of Mormon. This quest that I’ve been on since 2001 has given life to the very core of my being. I have been blessed immeasurably. My cup runneth over.

## The Birth of Zion By Neil Steede © 2020

I believe the best definitions of the birth of Zion seems to be found in the Biblical Book of Revelation. In the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter of Revelation it describes how the woman who is heavy with child, once she gives birth, she flees into the wilderness. The use of the word “wilderness” implies a forty-year period as it was the children of Israel who were in the wilderness for forty-years before being brought into the promised land.

I see the woman being referenced in this passage as the Bride of Christ; His church. The

child of the union between the church (Bride) and Christ must be Zion, and Zion is the name of the kingdom that will be established by Christ for the Millennial Reign. The Millennial Reign is the thousand years that Christ’s Kingdom will reign here on Earth before the Final War.

Now, *when* all of these things will take place is ignored by many because they do not believe it is going to actually happen. However, the events foretold do have indications given as to when they will occur. In particular, we are told that the

woman will have “a crown of 12 stars” when she gives birth.

Today, we think we are smart enough to know that some things are constant and cannot change. For example, we know that for the woman to be clothed in the Sun with the Moon at her feet must mean that this sign takes place in the sky, which make the woman a stellar constellation of the Zodiac. The Zodiac is made up of the 12 constellations of the Zodiac Year. The only woman in the Zodiac is Virgo, the virgin. Under the

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## The Birth of Zion *continued*

tropical zodiac, the Sun transits this area (on average) between August 23<sup>rd</sup> and September 22<sup>nd</sup> each year, and the Sun transits the constellation of Virgo from approximately September 16<sup>th</sup> to October 30<sup>th</sup>.

Now, the crown of Virgo is the constellation just above the Virgin's head, and that constellation is Leo, the lion. However, Leo only has nine stars, and as stated earlier, some things are constant and cannot change. Constellations are one of these things that don't change. How can the Constellation of Leo change from a constant of nine stars to twelve?

Most historians state the Book of Revelation was written about 50–100 years after Christ. During the interceding 1,900 years between then and now, Leo (the Crown of Virgo) has not changed its star count. That is until the year 2017. For a short period of time in September of 2017, Leo's star count changed from the constant nine to the twelve that was foretold. This was only three years ago. What happened?

In September of 2017, the planets of Mercury, Venus and Mars aligned in the constellation of Leo to make it a constellation of twelve stars instead of nine. There are people who argue that the three celestial bodies are planets, not stars. They therefore conclude that this event is not the Great Sign in Heaven because the planets cannot be counted as stars. This view displays an ignorance of history.

Historical discovery of the planets as such was only formalized by Galileo in the 1700s. Before that time, all of the planets were considered to be

stars. In fact, the five visible planets of Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn were called the wandering stars. The planets were called wandering stars because they looked like "stars" but appear to move independently around the night sky; hence, they wandered from constellation to constellation in the ecliptic and are considered stars.

me with little doubt that this prophecy is actually true. After all, no one could have foreseen the movement of the three planets, nor the relative time relation between the events.

Throughout history it has been a common practice for babies to require a midwife for delivery. Not only will the mother not want to deliver the child, due to



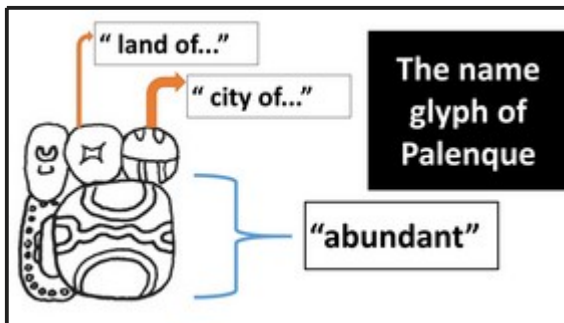
No one anciently could have figured out the algorithms to have known that three planets would have moved perfectly enough to create a twelve-star crown out of nine stars. Moreover, while the 1,900 years was the time necessary to wait for the fulfillment of the prophecy, one still needed to wait the 40-years of the pregnancy.

It is my supposition that 1980 is the year that the pregnancy began. I make this supposition based on changes that began happening in the spiritual world as churches became more concerned about temporal matters instead of focused on spiritual health. Supposing the last two-and-a-half years (September 23, 2017—April 6, 2020) represents the time of labor, it leaves

what we today call post-partum depression, she might not want to raise it either. I interpret this to mean that the church not only wants to deny the existence of Zion, but may well also not want to be responsible to raise it. Remember, the church no longer teaches the concept of Zion, and has eradicated it from our scriptures the best that it can. Therefore, I for one plan to act as a mid-wife and help raise the child. But, I can't do this alone. This will require a group of Christ dedicated people to push through the birthing pains and welcome this new spiritual creation into physical manifestation. Let's do this act of love and devotion together. The expected birthdate is April 6, 2020. Be watching.

We have already discussed the Power Point concerning the Bountiful “Writing on the Wall” referenced in the Book of Alma. In this article we will be discussing Christ’s visitations in Ancient Mesoamerica. These visitations occurred in the ancient archaeological site of Palenque which we believe is the Book of Mormon city called Bountiful.

At this point I will interrupt this paper with a note concerning the name of the city in question. Epigraphers know that Palenque has a Maya City Glyph depicting two plump ears of corn. This symbol is interpreted as *abundant*. In the Book of Mormon this city’s name is “Bountiful.”



Abundant and bounty are synonyms and express the same concept.

Through the Book of Mormon, we are aware that Christ visited the city Bountiful three times when he arrived after his death in Jerusalem. In my opinion, he first appeared outside of the Palace, then he was seen “praying in the wilderness,” and finally he was again outside of the Palace where he preached and blessed the children that were then observed being ministered to by angels within a ring of fire. While I am convinced that these three thrones were erected to represent each visit

Christ made to the people of Bountiful, it might actually be the case that they erected them at each location because this was the actual place where Christ prayed. Prayer is an act of connecting Earth to Heaven, and the act of praying for the people, his disciples and the children are essential to establishing his Kingdom on Earth.

From the research I have conducted on the site, I believe that each of these three locations were marked with a throne in order to commemorate them as “historically significant” locations, much as we erect Historical Landmarks today. However, these three thrones are very different from traditional Mayan thrones. The typical Mayan throne looks like a modern stone coffee table about 3 feet by 4 feet square and sitting close to the ground. The three thrones found at Palenque are stone slabs of about 4-6 inches thick and a little over three-feet wide by a little over six-feet long. These three thrones are then supported on four legs about two feet above the ground. No Mayan throne has a back to it except for one found at the Mayan City of Piedras Negras (this will be discussed in a future Power Point paper because it is also *implied* in a Book of Mormon event).

The greatest difference in three thrones is that all three are three times as wide as any other Mayan throne. Moreover, these three thrones are not made up of local material, as are all other Mayan thrones. Rather, all three thrones are made from white

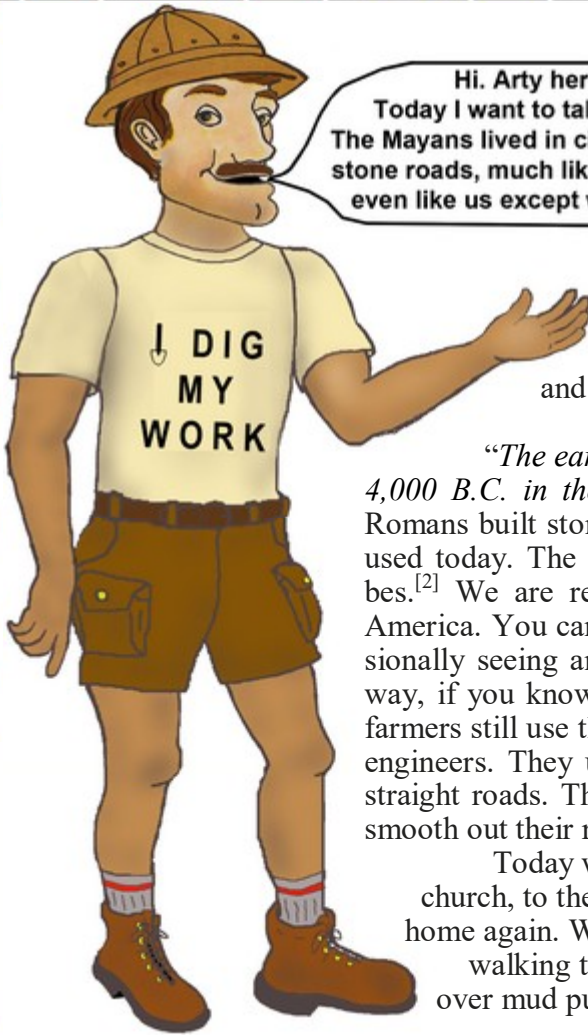
marble. Mexican Archaeologist have found a site south of Palenque, which has very white limestone. They have deduced that the stone is from this quarry. The area is remote enough that almost nobody has researched this to confirm where the stone originated. Of course, the exception to the rule is me.

White marble in the Americas is very rare. Most white marble used in construction today is imported from Italy. However, there is a single exception to this rule. The exception is a mountain in the state of Colorado. Many of the memorials in Washington DC are made of white marble from this mountain. In fact, the mine on this mountain is now owned by the Community of Christ Church in Independence, Missouri.

I have obtained a sample of this white marble from Colorado and directly compared it under a magnifying glass to each of the three thrones at Palenque. In my opinion, the material is indistinguishable from each other. However, I must admit that a geologist should actually execute this study.



This first throne is located just inside a tunnel entrance on the southeast corner of the Palace of Palenque. The next two thrones will each be discussed in the next two Cumorah Power Point papers.



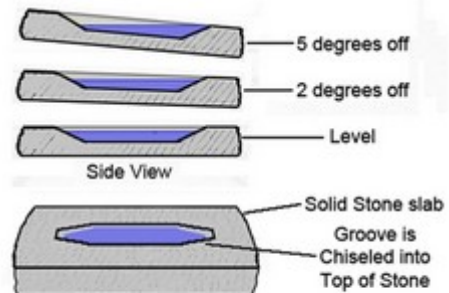
## Roads

Roads are wide paths or travel ways between two places. They allow many people to travel faster to their destinations. Every advanced civilization in recorded history used roads to travel in and around their towns and cities. Roads also connected people to other cities and beyond to distant places.

*“The earliest stone paved roads have been traced to about 4,000 B.C. in the Indian subcontinent and Mesopotamia.”*<sup>[1]</sup> The Romans built stone roads over two thousand years ago that are still used today. The Mayans also built roads out of stone called Sacbes.<sup>[2]</sup> We are re-discovering them all over Mexico and Central America. You cannot drive on any Mexican highway without occasionally seeing an ancient Mayan road off to the side of the highway, if you know what to look for. Many smaller towns and even farmers still use these ancient Mayan roads. The Mayans were good engineers. They used levels<sup>[3]</sup> and plumb-bobs<sup>[4]</sup> to make flat and straight roads. They even used heavy stone rollers<sup>[5]</sup> to flatten and smooth out their roads.

Today we travel on roads everywhere we go; to school, to church, to the store, to the movies. We travel on roads to return home again. Without roads, every journey we take would be like walking through the woods, walking around trees, stepping over mud puddles, trying not to trip on exposed tree roots and getting our feet wet crossing streams.

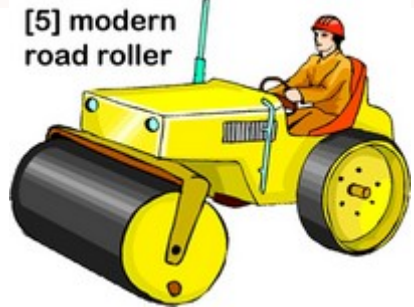
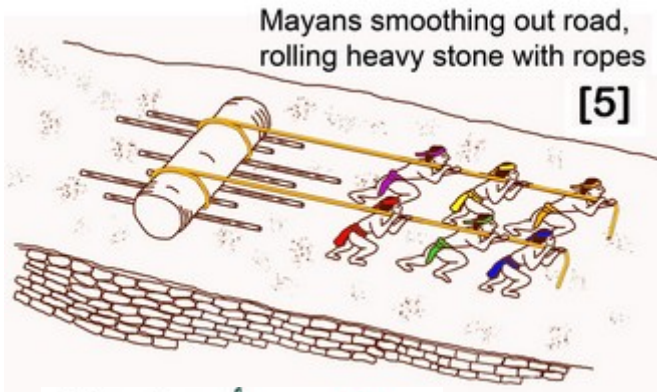
[1] <https://www.roadandtrack.com/car-culture/a4447/the-road-ahead-road-evolution/>



water is poured into the groove and the stone is tipped until the water is even on all sides

**Ancient Mayan stone level [3]**





**WORD SEARCH**

Find and circle the words from the story:

Y P C I H T O W N S R T U F Y P I C  
 R L Q Z I Z C G A K J G E L O A J V  
 O U F A R M E R S G I N N O E B M P  
 L M T R A V E L U U Q I G I L V W N  
 L B O C I V I L I Z A T I O N S E J  
 E B F R J Y V K B K U R N E Q W P L  
 R O H A G K P K S A C B E I T I D X  
 S B N Q V K R P A T H S E Y O U N D  
 D L H I S T O R Y K H K R O A D S X  
 R C I T I E S R O M A N S K U V J V  
 L O W B K A F L S T O N E F M K O P  
 N H M A Y A N S X V R E A K I O Q D

- Cities
- Civilizations
- Engineers
- Farmers
- History
- Level
- Mayan
- Paths
- Plumbbob
- Roads
- Rollers
- Roman
- Sache
- Stone
- Towns

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  - [http://research.history.org/Archaeological\\_Research/KidsPage.cfm](http://research.history.org/Archaeological_Research/KidsPage.cfm)
  - <http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2007/08/maya-rise-fall/map-interactive>
  - <http://www.digonsite.com/drdig/mesoamerica/15.html>
  - <http://www.smm.org/sln/ma/index.html>
  - <http://archaeology.la.asu.edu/teo/>
- For questions e-mail me at [tscott75@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tscott75@sbcglobal.net)

## What Lies Ahead *Continued*

Stoner. The series of events that followed were undoubtedly orchestrated by the Divine who placed us front and center in the Jalapa de Diaz community with introductions to the family of Catalina Antonio, the Mayor, the Federal Police and the local newspaper who published a story on us.

All of this took place on April 3rd and 4th of 2005. We later had another service on Sunday April 10th where Tim Brown read a Pastoral word that had been written for us in advance by John Gorker. In that word, the team was told that our mission was to prepare the people of the area to receive, even as we needed to prepare to receive, and that *“Success in your mission does not rest in searching, witnessing, or finding, but in fulfilling My Father’s will, as His Spirit reveals it to you.”*

Since that time, our approach to the region has been two-fold—researching to understand the archaeological evidences of the area, *and* keeping a heartfelt contact with the people around the hill. We sense that they especially will be impacted by the archaeological records we anticipate finding at the hill.

Through the years, members of the Hill Cumorah Team have traveled to many archaeological sites in Central America and the collection of information has been astonishing. We have worked in harmony with Neil Steede to flesh out what we have found and fit those evidences into the theories he has on the cultural histories of the region as it relates to the Book of Mormon. The cultural history that has developed is nearly unbelievable. We have traveled into

the land of the Maya and through the lens of the Book of Mormon we can now begin to understand what Maya cities and regions belonged to the Nephites and what ones belonged to the Lamanites. We have been especially blessed with information concerning the converted Lamanites who became known as Anti-Nephi-Lehi and moved into Jershon. We can now identify many of the stelae that deal with their story because of the images that are unique to their circumstances.

Because of this explosion of information, we have been involved in presenting Book of Mormon conferences in Illinois, Michigan and Missouri. We provide this information in an effort to bolster the faith of those who firmly believe that the Book of Mormon is true, but who are watching in anguish as the religious institutions around them distance themselves from the testimony of the Book of Mormon.

In 2015 we were given the opportunity to embark on an effort to form a library. Neil Steede needed a place for his collection to be catalogued and eventually made available to researchers. A local Book of Mormon believer had space in a warehouse that was already segregated and available for us to use. We received donations of furniture, shelving, and some electronics. From there we began to move toward creating the library when the building was sold and eventually the new owners required their space back. With no cash flow for commercial lease space, and no offers for space to house our burgeoning library, we were forced to halt the project. How-

ever, the lessons learned were very important and will be instrumental for future efforts when this opportunity will rise again. We feel certain it will.

At the moment, Hill Cumorah Expedition Team is taking a back seat to the efforts of the Early Sites Research Society (ESRS). The Research Society is the entity involved in the archaeological dig that is about to take place at Coxca (Cerro Rabon). This is necessary because ESRS is an academically recognized organization with a long history of New World excavations that approach cultural history from a diffusion perspective. Specifically, they research and report on findings that support pre-Columbian trans-oceanic contact. In other words, seafaring cultural contact before Columbus.

ESRS is in charge of this project because of the need to remove all religious associations from the dig. If this project does reveal ancient records on metal plates, this will be so supportive of the Book of Mormon that there must be no religious associations with this effort—the Mexican authorities demand an academic association so that all of the findings are viewed as valid and without presuppositions.

So, what will the archaeological dig bring? Will it be the library of records from which Mormon abridged the record of Nephi that we have today as the Book of Mormon? I have stood upon the mound and held the metal detector that was ringing loud and clear as I passed it over certain areas at certain angles. I have no doubt that there is some-

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www.hceti.org**

*The Hill Cumorah Expedition Team, Inc is a Missouri not-for-profit corporation dedicated to the study, research and dissemination of information as it pertains to the Book of Mormon. Our primary focus is to research and assemble archaeological and other related information to help establish the historical feasibility of the Book of Mormon.*

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*The views expressed in the articles written for this publication are often a reflection of research and personal opinion of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the organization.*

## What Lies Ahead *Continued*

thing important to find at this location. Perhaps it is the canons of Cortez that were buried for safe keeping. But something is definitely there. If it is not the plates, then like the storyline of National Treasure, it is another clue that will lead to another clue that will eventually reveal the real treasure when it is time.

If it is the real spiritual treasure that we are hoping for, then Hill Cumorah Expedition Team stands ready to begin processing the information that comes from the professional reports of the archaeological community. Just as we have done for the last twenty years, we will research and find the places where the evidences correlate with the Book of Mormon historical record. This

means there will be a great need for people who are willing to do the research and report on the findings. We need writers, editors, photographers, cartographers, IT professionals, and people who can present information professionally both in person and on paper. The world will be hungry for the information the library contains, and when that information correlates to the Book of Mormon, there will be remarkable demand for the perspectives Neil Steede has spent over forty years developing and we have spent twenty years putting into a translatable format.

There is no doubt that we are living in an age of great changes. The tools for instantaneous communication are now in place.

The internet is providing the method by which the knowledge of God can be shouted from the housetops. God is about to make bare His Holy arm and we are privileged to be instruments in the process of proclaiming. Do you want to be a part of establishing Zionic conditions for a gathering of the end-time harvest? Don't wait for someone to knock on your door and ask you. You need to ask how you can help. Hill Cumorah Expedition Team, Inc. is a not-for-profit 501c3 that is working to further all of these efforts. We never knew how far-reaching these projects would become, but it is something that is moving worldwide in the near future. Why not come along with us?